

Yellowstone County Extension Office http://www.co.yellowstone.mt.gov/extension/county4h/ Courthouse Room 106 PO Box 35021 Billings MT 59107-0521

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OCTOBER 2008

4-H FOLKS IN FOCUS

All of the input from everyone at the Post Fair meetings is appreciated. Fairbook changes will be voted on at the meetings in November.

There was an error in last months newsletter. Shepherd Tumbleweeds won the 2nd place educational booth in Department N at the MontanaFair.

Roni Baker Yellowstone County 4-H/Youth Agent

LEADERS, 4-H NEEDS YOU!

As we begin a new 4-H year, we want to remind you that decisions are made by those who regularly attend meetings. We encourage you to attend these meetings to participate in this process.

Simply check the box on the leader enrollment form for the committee that you are interested in. You'll be added to the mailing list and can keep up-to-date with various committee happenings, if needed.

If you are new to 4-H, the leader meetings are an important resource of knowledgeable people and information about various 4-H projects and programs. So what are you waiting for? Jump in and get your feet wet!

Our meetings are posted in the newsletter calendar \sim we'd love to have you join us! It's also a great way to meet others involved in similar projects to share information.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT NEEDS

Glass Donation

If you have any old glasses, glass cups or small dishes, we would welcome donations for the Dime Toss booth at Family Fun Night.

Book Walk Donation

The Book Walk will be held in conjunction with the Cake Walk again this year. Good used books are needed!

If possible, please bring your donations to the Extension Office before November 13th or take them to Metra's Montana Pavilion on Friday November 14th in the evening. Thanks for your help. Each club needs to bring 50 items.

CLOVERBUD MEETING

All Cloverbuds and Cloverbud parents are invited to join us for a night of fun on Thursday, October 16th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Courthouse Room 105. There will be crafts for the kids and we will talk about the possibility of entering a float into the Downtown Billings holiday parade.

We will also discuss the interest and/or need for future Cloverbud meetings in effort for these little folks to feel like an important part of our Yellowstone County 4-H program.

Please call Stephanie Johnson @ 252-4115 with questions and to RSVP to ensure we have enough craft supplies. Can't make it to this meeting, that's OK. If you are interested in any future Cloverbud activities please give Stephanie a call. She would like to get your input to ensure all our Cloverbuds have a successful and fun 4-H year.



4-H COUNCIL MEETING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

Thank you to Melody Harris who served as the 4-H Council President last year. Your service is appreciated.

The next 4-H Council meeting is on Thursday, October 2nd at 7:30 p.m. in Room 105 of the Courthouse. Everyone is invited to attend.

ALBERTA 4-H LEADER'S CONFERENCE

Plans are underway for the 67th Annual Alberta 4-H Leaders' Conference January 9th-11th, 2009. Once again, Montana 4-H has been invited to send adult volunteer delegates to attend the conference.

Who May Apply to Attend:

Applicants must be a leader enrolled in a Montana county during the prior 4-H year.

Priority consideration will be given to applicants:

- Who have not previously attended.
- From counties who have not sent delegates in the previous two years.
- Who have served as leaders for 3 or more years (including the current year).

The application for participation in the Alberta Leaders' Conference is available at the Extension Office. Application forms are due to the Montana 4-H Center for Youth Development by October 15th, 2008.

AWARDS

Clubs that wish to turn in their ballots for Friendship Award, Friend of 4-H Award, Outstanding Teen Leader Award, and Alumni Award, please do so by October 15th. These special awards need input from everyone.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Plans for Family Fun Night are underway. Family Fun Night will again be held in the Montana Pavilion at MetraPark on Saturday, November 15th from 6 to 9 p.m. Mark your calendar. It should be great fun!

MSU BILLINGS COLLEGIATE 4-H MEETING

Anyone attending MSU-B who is a 4-H Alumni member from anywhere is welcome to attend the next meeting for the group on October 7th at 2:00 p.m. in the Beartooth Room on the 2nd floor of the Student Union Building (SUB).

The group is activity and community service based. No record books.

Please pass the information on to everyone you know who is attending MSU-Billings.

INNOVATIVE 4-H PROGRAMMING GRANTS

Available Funds: \$2,500 Grants - usually ranging from \$200 to \$600.

Application Deadline: October 1 (main deadline) and April 1 (for any remaining funds).

Source of Funds: Montana 4-H Foundation, MSU-Bozeman

Grant Criteria:

- Innovative youth or adult volunteer leader educational programs. Program efforts currently conducted are not eligible.
- 2. Programs currently being conducted in other states qualify.
- 3. Project must have potential to be replicated in other Montana counties.
- 4. Project can reach existing or new audiences.
- 5. Application team and teaching team (can be different) must include an Extension staff person, an adult volunteer, and a teen volunteer.
- 6. Project and evaluation must be completed within one year of submission deadline.

Contact Roni to discuss ideas and get an application!

BASKET SALES

Once again this year the Interstate Exchange Group will have baskets for sale at Family Fun Night. The money raised by each person goes into their fund to pay for their annual trip. Clubs will not have the opportunity to sell

baskets as a club fundraiser.

Last year there were some awesome baskets. Be sure to check them out and bid on them in the Silent Auction. *Please be prepared to pay at Family Fun Night*.

CITIZENSHIP INTERVIEWS

Each year Yellowstone County sends individuals to the Montana Citizenship Seminar in Helena and to Washington Focus in Washington, D.C. To be considered as a delegate, you must get your registration form turned in by Friday, November 14th and participate in the Citizenship Interviews which will be held on Sunday, December 7th.

Applications will be mailed in mid October to 4-H members age 14 and older. Brush up on current affairs, read the newspaper, watch TV news and know your state representatives.

MT Citizenship Seminar - must be 14 by October 1, 2008 Washington Focus - must by 15 by October 1, 2008

NOTES OF APPRECIATION ARE APPRECIATED

It would amaze many people the number of comments we receive when a thank you not has been sent and equally so when a thank you note *has not* been sent.

Remember to thank sponsors, buyers, leaders, etc. A thank you for the time and energy your parents give would also be appreciated.

IDEA: There are some clubs who write their notes at a club meeting.

2008 MSU AG DAYS

The livestock judging contest for MSU Ag Days in Bozeman is scheduled for Friday, October 31st at 2:00 p.m. If you are interested in attending this contest contact the Extension Office by Oct. 14th.

4-H LICENSE PLATES

Montana 4-H License Plates are still available. All

application or renewal of license plates is handled by the country treasurer. Cost of the plate is \$35. Of this fee, \$15 goes to the county treasurer, \$10 to the Montana 4-H Foundation and \$10 to the Yellowstone County 4-H Foundation. The license plate renewal fee is \$20 which goes to 4-H (state and local).

WIN a 4-H License Plate!! Fill out the coupon in this newsletter and return it to the Extension Office by Nov. 14th or in the barrel at Family Fun Night (Saturday, November 15th). A drawing for THREE license plates will be held at Family Fun Night. Any 4-H leader or licensed 4-H teen driver is eligible to enter.

NATIONAL 4-H WEEK

October 5th-11th is National 4-H Week. Take this opportunity to invite a friend to join 4-H. All enrollment materials are ready to be picked up at the Extension Office by club leaders.

This year 4-H youth across the country will be "Keeping It Green" by initiating environmental projects that make a positive difference in their communities.

During National 4-H Week and throughout the year, 4-H'ers solve problems in their communities, raise awareness about environmental issues, and make a difference for their futures in the spirit of 4-H's vision to create a world in which youth and adults learn, grow, and work together as catalysts for positive change.

What are you and your club doing to "Go Green" this year?

LOAN PROGRAMS FROM THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF AG

The <u>Junior Agriculture Loan</u> is available to youth ages 9-11 with a maximum of \$3,500 for up to five years. Youth ages 12-21 may borrow a maximum of \$3,500 for up to five years. Both are available at 6% simple interest annually.

The <u>Rural Assistance Loan Program</u> is available to individuals 18 years of age and above for a maximum of \$50,000; terms vary by loan type.

Application forms are available on the web: www.agr.state.mt.us/business/JrAgLoans.asp
Or call Sam Antonich @ 406-444-2402

Youth Loan Program - Farm Service Agency Youth between 10-20 years old living in towns under 10,000 may apply for loans up to \$5,000. For more information call FSA @ 406-727-7580.

PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF **COMMUNITY AWARD**

If you've made a difference by volunteering in your community over the past year, you could win \$1,000 and a fabulous trip to Washington, D.C. next May by applying for a Prudential Spirit of Community Award. More importantly, you could win recognition that might inspire other young people to follow your example.

These prestigious awards recognize young people in grades 5–12 on the basis of their volunteer activities. It's easy to apply: visit www.prudential.com/spirit and click on "Apply Now" and follow the online instructions. Applications must be completed, printed out, signed and submitted to Roni Baker by October 31st.

ATTENTION ALL 4-H CLUBS: ADVICE FOR STARTING THE NEW 4-H YEAR OFF RIGHT

Plan your year (give guidance but let the kids make choices—don't forget to have fun!) Recruit help! Elect new officers! Pick up your planning guide at the 4-H office

> A. Community Service (choose at least 1 project per club) - ask the 4-H office for ideas.

B. Fundraisers (decide how to raise money for camp, fair, club events, etc.) - 4-H office has materials.

C. Field Trips (learn & have fun)

D. Guests (informative & fun)

E. Club Demos (relaxed atmosphere—have each kid do one; prepare for Communication Day.)

4-H ENROLLMENT IN YELLOWSTONE COUNTY

The following is an update on our enrollment. Be sure to encourage your members and leaders to join again. Recruit new families to your club.

| <u>Members</u> | <u>Leaders</u> | <u>Clubs</u> |
|----------------|--------------------------|---|
| 500 | 167 | 18 |
| 487 | 201 | 18 |
| 533 | 213 | 20 |
| 513 | 239 | 20 |
| 485 | 229 | 21 |
| | 500 487 533 513 | 500 167 487 201 533 213 513 239 |

4-H LEADERS

Thank you to these committed 4-H Leaders.

| 10 Year Leaders: | |
|------------------|------------|
| Jody Anderson | Lockwood I |

Humble Bs Lockwood Humble Bs Juanita Bonner Melody Harris Town n Country

Lockwood Soaring Phoenix Laurie Holzwarth

Laurel Roadrunners Lacey Lanaghan Jo Lokken **Lockwood Outlaws** Chris Martin Town n Country Jeff Martin Town n Country Karen Postema Laurel Roadrunners

Lockwood Soaring Phoenix Karl Schlepp Pennie Schlepp Lockwood Soaring Phoenix

Sandra Schlosser Boots & Britches Joe Welch Town n Country Joy Welch Town n Country Becky Wolfe Heights Trailblazers

15 Year Leaders:

Shannon Brown **Huntley Eagles** Kathy Gehring **Lockwood Outlaws**

Karla Larsen City Kids

No 20, 25 or 30 Year Leader Anniversaries this year.

4-H SUPPORTERS

Many businesses and organizations in our community support 4-H. Each month I have been listing several of those supporters in the newsletter. I would encourage you to tell them thank you and support them in return. If you would like to submit names for this article, please send them to Roni.

Big Sky Feeds **PAYS**

First Interstate Bank Stockman Bank

Farm Bureau

Beartooth Harley-Davidson/High Mountain Recreation

COUNTY AWARDS

County Award nomination forms were sent in last month's newsletter and given out in the fair packets. I encourage everyone to nominate members by October 15th.

If you need a form contact the Extension Office or print the form off the county 4-H website

www.co.yellowstone.mt.us/extension/county4h/ You may also use the form as a guide and type up your nominations to be saved as a file that can be emailed to ronibaker@montana.edu If I don't respond to your email, call me! Often our county email firewall blocks incoming email. You can also fax them to 256-2825.

USED 4-H PROJECT MATERIALS

If you have any 4-H project books that are not being used and **have not be written in, PLEASE** return then to the Extension Office. We re-use them to keep costs down.

We are in desperate need of Leader Books for the Computer Project.

ARE YOU 13 OR OLDER? THIS CLUB IS JUST FOR YOU! 4-H JUNIOR LEADERS

On Thursday, October 9th at 6:00 p.m. the Junior Leaders will meet in Courthouse Room 105 to start planning Project Day and other activities for the year. We will have food & fun. Any 4-H member 13 or older is welcome to come and help plan workshops! Please bring your ideas.

If you have any questions, please call Lacey @ 628-1075, Norma @ 670-5190 or Melody @ 208-3911.

ATTENTION 4-H CLUBS 4-H SHOWCASE

The first meeting for the spring 2009 Showcase and Public Revue will be held during the November Department N meeting on Thursday, November 6th at 6:30 p.m.

Each club must have a Showcase representative attend the Department N meeting to plan for this big event next spring. Clubs not sending representatives may not

be allowed to have their members participate.

This would be a good time to encourage a teen leader to attend along with the adult leader.

4-H CLUB SECRETARY MINUTES

Here are the secretary minutes submitted Oct. ~ Sept. for the last three 4-H years. Ideally each club should have 11.

| <u>Club</u> | <u> </u> | <u>'06-'07</u> | <u>'07-'08</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Blue Creek Jumping | | | |
| Bucks | <u>n/a</u> | 7 | 7 |
| Boots & Britches | 6 | 3 | 4 |
| City Kids | <u>11</u> | 9 | 10 |
| City Slickers | 9 | 9 | 8 |
| Dudes n Darlins | <u>4</u> 2 | 1 | 1 3 8 |
| Explorers | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| Heights Trailblazers | <u>n/a</u> | 5 | |
| Hesper Hustlers | <u>11</u> | 11 | 10 |
| Huntley Eagles | 7 | 0 | 2 |
| Kountry Kritters | <u>4</u> <u>3</u> | 5 | 4 |
| Laurel Roadrunners | | 5 | <u>1</u> |
| Lockwood Humble Ba | | 8 | 6 |
| Lockwood Outlaws | 4 | 2 | <u> </u> |
| Lockwood Soaring | | | |
| Phoenix | 5 | 7 | 10 |
| Ruff Riders | 8 | 7 | <u>11</u> |
| Shepherd Pioneers | <u>11</u> | 9 | 9 |
| Shepherd Tumblewee | ds <u>8</u> | 9 | 10 |
| Stars n Stripes | <u>n/a</u> | 1 | <u>3</u> 7 |
| Town & Country | 9 | 11 | 7 |
| Worden Riverdale | 9 | 4 | <u>7</u> |

INITIALS IN NEWSLETTER

Remember to look for your initials and birthdate in the newsletter. If you find yours, contact the Extension Office at 256-2828. You will win \$5 if you find yours!

DEPARTMENT N NEWS ...

DEPARTMENT N FAIRBOOK

Clubs or individuals who have input for the Department N Fairbook, please have it in by the November 6th meeting and changes will be voted on at this meeting.

CAKE KIDS

Thinking about taking cake decorating? Come to a Cake meeting Tuesday, October 21st at 6:30 p.m. in Courthouse Room 105. If you missed the rolled fondant m & m's you are in luck. We will be decorating pumpkins with rolled fondant. Bring your decorating tools if you have them. You will also need to bring your own rolled fondant. One box will decorate 2 cakes—so share with someone. You can buy the rolled fondant at Michaels, Jayne's Signature Sweets or Walmart in the craft/cake decorating section.

Also bring a bag of Halloween candy. I will furnish cakes, frosting, boards, & boxes so RSVP to the Extension Office @ 256-2828 or to Carol @ 248-4069 (leave a message) by Friday, October 17th so I know how many to bring. If you can't get rolled fondant, call me at the above number. See you there! ~ Carol

LEATHERCRAFT

Anyone interested in Leathercraft is welcome to attend the monthly Big Sky Association of Leather Artists (BSALA) meeting on the fourth Thursday of the month in Courthouse Room 105 beginning at 7:00 p.m. October's meeting is the 23rd and it will be a member tool swap. Bring your extra tools to sell or trade.

Remember BSALA donated a great set of 13 DVDs covering a range of leathercraft subjects. These DVDs are available for check out from the Extension Office.

AEROSPACE WORKSHOP

Come and join the high-flying fun at the new Aerospace workshop. In this workshop series, members will gain knowledge of the Aerospace industry, learn to build rotors, helicopters and rockets!

We'll meet Fridays, October 10th, 17th, and 24th from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in Courthouse Room 105. The rocket launch date will be Saturday, November 1st at 1:00 p.m. in the Metra parking lot.

If you have questions or concerns, please call Melody Harris @ 208-3911.

GPS

There will be a GPS workshop on Wednesday, October 8th from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Courthouse Room 105. This will be a class to teach the basics about GPS tracking units and what they can do for you.

If you have questions, please call Melody Harris @ 208-3911.

LIVESTOCK NEWS ...

SMALL ANIMAL / SALE / LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Yellowstone County Small Animal/Sale/Livestock Committees will meet on Monday, November 17th, NOT November 19th, in Room 105 of the Courthouse. There will NOT be a meeting in October. Fairbook changes will be voted on at the November 17th meeting.

HORSE FAIRBOOK CHANGES

Horse Fairbook changes will be made at the October 22nd Horse and Colt meeting in Room 105 of the Courthouse at 6:00 p.m. Anyone interested in these issues or others should plan on attending the meeting. Changes must be submitted on the rule/policy change form by Oct. 3rd. Forms are available at the Extension Office.

HOG WATERERS FOR SALE

The big barrel hog waterers used at the MontanaFair are for sale. The Sale Committee is selling them for \$25 each. If you are interested, please contact the Extension Office at 256-2828.

ATTENTION CAT PROJECT MEMBERS

We will have our first cat meeting of the year on Saturday, October 18th at 9:00 a.m. in Courthouse Room 105. This will be our annual Halloween party/meeting! Dress up both yourself and your cat. We will have prizes and refreshments. We will also have a master calendar for the year and discuss the upcoming cat year. If you have any questions, contact Anna Mathiason @ 671-3333 or Penny Jones @ 254-9411.

STEER OF MERIT

The following members had steers at the MontanaFair that qualified for the Steer of Merit Program in Montana. The data from the ultrasound was used to meet a set of criteria to qualify.

MT Steer of Merit Standards (2008)

Cutability – great than or equal to 51%

Hot Carcass Weight – 600-900 ponds
Dressing Percentage – 55-68%
Back Fat – 0.15 – 0.60 inches
Ribeye Area – less than or equal to 17.5 square inches
Yield Grade – less than or equal to 2.99
Dark Cutter – no
Ouality Grade – Choice or better

Cortney Bromenshenk Emily Kading
Kayleen Goggins Tanner Haug
Taylor Mydland Stene Hultgren
Kaden Amen

CASPER COLLEGE LIVESTOCK JUDGING

Casper College will be holding a contest on Saturday, October 4th at the Grace Werner Agriculture Pavilion on the Casper College campus. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. and the contest will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. RSVP to Heath Hornecker at 307-268-2525 or hhornecker@caspercollege.edu

STATE 4-H LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE

The State 4-H Livestock Committee is accepting applications for those wanting to fill a three year term. There are spots available for two volunteers and two teens per 4-H District. Committee responsibilities include Animal Quality Assurance Programs, Advanced Market Beef Project, Livestock Leaders Forum, updating or adding Curriculum, and policy decisions.

Applications are available in the Extension Office and the deadline is December 1st

MONTANA ADVANCED YOUTH MARKET BEEF PROGRAM

The Montana Advanced Youth Market Beef Program (AYMBP) helps 4-H'ers interested in market beef projects to take their education to the next level. Instead of taking one steer to the county fair and selling it for a premium price, participants in the AYMBP begin feeding three animals in January and have them finished in time for a pen show at Midland Bull Test in Columbus, MT at the beginning of June. Cattle are shipped directly from Columbus after the live pen show to the Swift and Co. processing facility in Greeley, CO. Calves are sold on a quality and yield grade basis, and participants are paid carcass value after all marketing and transportation expenses are deducted.

4-H youth ages 12-19 are eligible to participate. Participants must keep detailed feed, health, and financial records, and must be current in Quality Assurance Training. The state needs a minimum of 15 youth statewide to participate. If you would like to participate, enrollment forms are available at the Extension Office. Please let Roni know if you are interested by October 31st, 2008 by calling the Extension Office @ 256-2828.

'08~'09 HORSE & COLT PROGRAMS

Monthly meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. in the Courthouse Meeting Room 105. Watch the newsletter for education programs that will be added to the meetings.

Oct. 22 – Vote on horse supplement & Fairbook changes November – no meeting December – no meeting January 21 February 18 – Horse Helmet Workshop

February 18 – Horse Helmet Workshop March 18 – Assessments & ID Cards April 15 – Horse Helmet Workshop May 20 June 17 July 15

CLUB CORNER

The following clubs turned in club minutes this month.

<u>Boots n Britches</u> – The fair, club horse show and Family Fun Night we talked about. We are trying to decide about the meeting date and location.

<u>City Kids</u> – The club elected new officers. Record books are due and new enrollment paperwork was handed out.

Explorers - The club organized for the next year. Record books were collected and new information was passed out to everyone.

<u>Heights Trailblazers</u> – Members gave reports about the fair. Family Fun Night plans were made.

<u>Hesper Hustlers</u> – We reviewed the fair. The club will be numbering the raffle tickets for Family Fun Night.

<u>Lockwood Soaring Phoenix</u> – We had an informal meeting and discussed the club leadership.

<u>Ruff Riders</u> – After talking about the fair we began plans for next year. Officers were elected.

<u>Shepherd Tumbleweeds</u> – We signed thank you notes for the businesses who donated at the fair. The by laws need to be reviewed by members and we will vote in November.

<u>Shepherd Pioneers</u> – All club officers were elected. We nominated clubs, leaders and alumni for awards.

<u>Worden Riverdale</u> – Officer nominations were done. We had a wide variety of nominations. We will vote next month. The club plans to go to the corn maze.

FOUR LEA FA

Dear Four Lea Fa.

I'm thinking of becoming an officer in my 4-H club. What would my responsibilities be?

4-H CLUB OFFICERS & ROLES

The officer and committee system is a good way of dividing jobs and responsibilities among club members in an orderly way. The number of officers needed is determined by the size and type of club. Club officers are usually elected annually, near the beginning of the 4-H year. One of the Leaders or parents should be responsible for helping officers carry out their responsibilities. Encourage the officers to attend officer training when it is offered at the county or state level.

<u>President</u>—Prepares the agenda with other officers and Leader, and presides at club meetings.

<u>Vice-President</u>—Assumes duties of President in his/her absence. Has responsibility to see that committees are working on assigned tasks.

<u>Secretary</u>—Keeps complete and accurate records/minutes of each business meeting. Writes all club correspondence. Keeps club roll and all other club records to date.

<u>Treasurer</u>—Handles all club money. Keeps accurate and up to date financial records. All checks should be co-

signed with the Organizational Leader. (jap/10/20/94) <u>Historian</u>—Maintains and updates the clubs history book to preserve information for future club members. <u>Reporter</u>—Writes news stories about meetings and special events for the local newspaper.

Respectfully, Four Lea Fa

FOOD FOR TALK

October's Discussion Questions:

"A wise man controls his temper. He knows that anger causes mistakes." Share a time when you lost your temper and another when you controlled your temper. Explain how differently both situations worked out.

What is your favorite word? Why? What is your least favorite word? Why?

"Many men owe the grandeur of their lives to their tremendous difficulties." *Charles H. Spurgeon* (1832-1892), British preacher, author & evangelist. What do you think he meant by this?

"Laughter is the best medicine." *Anonymous*. Discuss why you think this is true or not. Or tell about an incident when a sense of humor helped lighten a tense situation at home, work, or school.

WIN A 4-H LICENSE PLATE ENTRY FORM

Return this entry to the Extension Office by November 14th or to the barrel at Family Fun Night on November 15th. Drawing will be held at Family Fun Night. Need not be present to win.

(Must be licensed 4-H Leader or teen driver)

| Name: | | | |
|----------|---|--|--|
| Phone: _ | | | |
| 4-H Club | : | | |

GOOD LUCK!

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ATTENTION: THIS IS YOUR 4-H NEWSLETTER

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